

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
1 September 2005 (01.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/079778 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **A61K 31/11, A61P 1/04**

(21) International Application Number: **PCT/GB2005/000594**

(22) International Filing Date: 18 February 2005 (18.02.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0403733.9 19 February 2004 (19.02.2004) GB  
60/545,834 19 February 2004 (19.02.2004) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL [GB/GB]**; 20 Park Crescent, London W1B 1AL (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **FITZGERALD Rebecca [GB/GB]**; Mrc Cancer Cell Unit, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2XZ (GB). **CHANG, Chih-Long [—/GB]**; Mrc Cancer Cell Unit, Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 2XZ (GB).

(74) Agents: **RICHARDS, William et al.**; D Young & Co, 120 Holborn, London EC1N 2DY (GB).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



WO 2005/079778 A2

(54) Title: MEDICAMENTS

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the use of a retinoic acid antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of Barrett's oesophagus (Barrett's mucosa). Furthermore, the invention relates to use of a retinoic acid antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of ectopic development of columnar epithelium, use of such an antagonist in the conversion of columnar epithelium to squamous epithelium, in the induction or maintenance of squamous epithelium, and in the reduction of proliferation of ectopic columnar epithelium. Preferably the retinoic acid antagonist is an aldehyde dehydrogenase inhibitor such as a competitive inhibitor. Preferably the antagonist is citral.